mer Cooperative Society Limited, New Delhi has declared dividend for its shareholders for the year 1985-86 as was done in the previous years,

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) (a) and (b) No, Sir Central Government Employees' Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd, New Delhi has neither declared any dividend to its shareholders for the year 1985-86, nor it was done in the previous years due to past accumulated losses However, under Sales Promotion Scheme, it has been decided to give patronage incentive to the shareholders in the shape of a gift worth Rs 8/- per shareholder against any one purchase for Rs 50/- or above made during the period 15th December, 1986 to 31st January, 1987

(c) Does not arise.

Measures taken for afforestation Programme

2253 SHRI KALPNATH RAI Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) what are the afforestation measures undertaken in the conutry during the Sixth Five Year Plan period,

(b) what is the result thereof, and

(c) what are afforestation measures under way now to increase the forest area in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z R ANSARI) (a) During the Sixth Five Year Plan the afforestation measures consisted of rehabilitation of degraded forests, planting on community lands, planting along tank foreshores and along roadsides and railsides Afforestation was also carried out in various catchments

The following major afforestation steps programme were also undertaken to give a thrust to the afforestation:—

(i) Afforestation was included in the New 20-point Programme to give it the requisite thrust and direction

(ii) Emphasis was placed on Farm forestry

(iii) Long term Social Forestry projects were formulated and implemented

(iv) Social forestry was included as one of the important components of the Rural Development programme such as NREP & RLEGP.

(v) Increased allocations were made for forestry—the plan outlay for forestry was more than three times that of the Fifth Five Year Plan

(b) Whereas 3 55 million hectares were afforested in the country in the thirty year period between 1951-52 to 1979-80, 4 65 million hectares were afforested during the Sixth Plan period

(c) The measures taken during the Sixth Five Year Plan are being continued In addition People's participation is being encouraged through voluntary organisation, decentralised nurseries and Tree Pattas With a view to coordinate the effort, the National Wastelands Development Board has been constituted with the objective of promoting the afforestation of five million hectares of wastelands per annum The salient features of the Action Plan for wastelands development are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below) The 20-point programme has been redrawn recently to give the programme greater thrust and direction, with focus on increased people's involvement.

Statement

Action Plan for Development of Wastelands .

1 **Identification of Wastelands:**

The State Governments/U Ts. have been requested to identify wastelands in their territories, whether they be in forest area, revenue/common lands or degraded farmlands.

2. **People's Involvement:**

This will be ensured by the following measures:

(a) Decentralised Nurseries People's Nurseries i.e, kisans, schools, women, youth groups, voluntary agencies, etc, will be motivated to meet the increased demand for seedlings.

(b) Farm Forestry. Farmers will be motivated to take up tree farming on their marginal lands and planting on their field bunds A rational seedlings distribution policy should be evolved.

(c) Tree Growers' Cooperatives Tree Growers' Cooperatives should be organised with the involvement of farmers in raising and distribution of seedlings and in tree plantations.

(d) Voluntary Agencies· The Grass roots agencies, Mahila Mandal Youth groups would also be motivated in nursery raising and tree plantations

(e) Tree Pattas: Strips of land along roads, rail, canals, etc. and other degraded land should be given to the rural poor, with usufruct rights on the trees planted by them on such lands.

3. **Nodal Agency:**

The State/U.T Governments have been requested to identify single nodal agency for ensuring an integrated approach for the implementation of the programme which is being executed by different agencies, official and otherwise.

4. **Seed:**

The States/U Ts have been requested to extend the scope of operation of the existing State Seed Corporations to include the production and supply of fodder, grass and legume seeds to farmers on commercial basis.

5. **Leasing of Lands:**

The States/U.T Governments have been requested to prepare guidelines for leasing of forest and non-forest wastelands for afforestation to the rural poor.

6 Forest based industries must be encouraged to afforest wastelands to produce the raw material needed by them. Industries must also be enthused to raise tree cover on wastelands with a view to provide employment to the rural poor as well as to enable them to grow trees on a remunerative basis The State Governments have been requested to draw up guidelines for the lease of wastelands to industries in this behalf.

7. **Urban Fuelwood and Green Belts:**

The States/UTs have been requested to ensure that town and cities have green belts of fuelwood and fodder plantations to cater to the urban fuelwood and fodder needs

8 **Degraded Forest Areas:**

States have been requested to identify degraded forests lands and to reforest them with fuel wood and fodder species

9. **Forest Development Corporations:**

The Forest Development Corporations should obtain wastelands on lease from the Governments for raising fuelwood and fodder plantations.

10 **Government Departments:**

Government Departments, public sector undertakings and other bodies/ institutions having substantial areas of unutilised lands must bring such land under tree cover

11 **Media and Communications:**

A massive publicity campaign through the traditional media of folk art and culture radio, television and other audio-visual aids should be undertaken to create awareness among the masses

12 **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

The State/U T. Governments should evolve appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure qualitative implementation of the programme

Police verification for Excise Inspectors/Income-tax Inspectors

2254 SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what type of police verification is carried out for successful candidates for the posts of Excise Inspectors/Income Tax Inspectors before their appointment,

(b) whether there is any special verification procedure for the Sikh candidates, and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) Since Excise Inspectors/Income Tax Inspectors are Group 'C' posts, the usual type of verification prescribed for all Group 'C' posts in the Central Government is also applicable to them before appointment

(b) No special verification is prescried exclusively for the Sikh candidates

(c) Does not arise.

Shifting of Central Finger Print Bureau from Calcutta to Delhi

2255 SHRI SUKOMAL SEN. Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Goernment have decided to shift the Central Finger Print Bureau from Calcutta to Delhi and if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM). Yes Sir Based on the report of the Task Force appointed by the Ministry of Home Affairs for setting up of National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) it has been decided to merge the Central Finger Print Bureau with NCRB except that portion of staff who are concerned with investigation work of CBI

As the National Crime Record Bureau is located in Delhi the modalities of shifting Central Finger Print Bureau from Calcutta to Delhi are being worked out.

Influx of Chakmas into Mizoram and Tripura from Bangladesh

2256 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding Chakma population in Mizoram and Tripura and what is their monthly average infiltration into the country from Bangladesh,

(b) whether the continuous infiltration of Chakmas into the country have any impact on the economic and ethnic problems in the region, and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken so far by Government to check their infiltration into the country